

Remarks/Arguments:

The foregoing amendments and remarks are in response to the Office Action dated June 7, 2004. At the time of the Office Action, claims 1-11 were pending in this application.

The specification was amended to comport with the corrected drawing figure and to aid understanding by adding reference indicia.

The drawing figure was corrected to remedy drafting errors in both switch contact designation and contact positions within IC2.

No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 11 are cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 2, 4, 7 - 10 are amended.

Claims 12 - 17 are added.

Claims 9 and 10 were objected to and have been amended to correct dependency. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Abstract JP 63 127615.

Review of Applicants' Invention

Prior to addressing the Examiner's rejections on art, a brief review of Applicants' invention may be helpful. The invention relates to the elimination of unwanted cross coupling between multiple sources present for selection as separate feeds to a video amplifier and a sync pulse separator. Applicants recognized that unwanted cross coupling occurs not only across unselected switch contacts (cross points) but also between conductors coupling the signal sources to the selector switch. Such unwanted cross coupling is exacerbated when signal containing significant high frequency content, i.e. HDTV, are available for selection. Applicants' recited switches may be considered as a "Shunt Series" arrangement rather than the more conventional "Series Shunt" configuration.

In amended claim 8, applicants' recite a video display apparatus with video signal selection. A source of a video signal is coupled to first and second conductive paths. A video amplifier amplifies the video signal from the first conductive path and a sync separator separates sync pulses from the video signal from the second

conductive path. First and second controllable switches are coupled to the first and a second conductive paths and couple the video signal to the video amplifier and the sync separator respectively. At least one further controllable switch grounds the first and second conductive paths when the first and second controllable switches uncouple the video signal from the video amplifier and the sync separator.

Japanese Patent Abstract JP 63 127615 shows a video switching circuit employing four controllable make/break switches, of which two sections appear to be used. The switching circuit allows selection between a first video source from emitter follower transistor Q4, and coupled to pin 20 of device 19, and a second video source fed via connector 3 and AC coupled to pin 17 of device 19. When switch 30 is closed the signal from emitter follower Q4 is coupled to emitter follower transistor Q1 to form an output signal. In addition, the activation of switch 30 by transistor Q3 also causes capacitor C to be coupled to ground short circuiting the second video signal from input 3.

Unlike applicants' amended claim 8 arrangement the JP abstract makes no mention nor suggestion of applicants' "first and second conductive paths". In addition the abstract makes no mention nor suggestion of video signal selection for sync separation and that when uncoupled from the sync separator the second conductive path supplying the sync separator sync is grounded.

Since JP 63 127615 fails to disclose first and second conductive paths and makes no mention of a sync separator with controllable input grounding, amended claim 8 is not anticipated nor rendered obvious.

Claims 9 and 10 depend from claim 8 and are, for the same reasons patentable over Japanese Patent Abstract 63 127615.

Claim 9 is additionally patentable because JP 63 127615 makes no mention of enabling first and second lowpass filters in first and second conductive paths.

Amended claim 10 is also additionally patentable because JP 63 127615 shows a continuous circuit presence of a low pass filter formed, in a first condition when transistor Q4 output is selected, by capacitor C and "Rcesat", the saturated resistance of transistor Q3. In a second condition when input 3 is selected the low pass filter is formed by capacitor C and the collector load resistor R of transistor Q3.

Thus JP 63 127615 shows selection between lowpass filters with different cutoff frequencies. However, because transistor Q3 uses a collector load resistor R, even when transistor Q3 is switched off load resistor R is present forming the lowpass filter. Hence the circuit of JP 63 127615 is unable to disable lowpass filter selection as recited in applicants' claim 10.

For the reasons discussed above dependent claims 9 and 10 are additionally patentable over JP 63 127615

In new claim 12 applicants recite a video signal input selector which is subject to cross coupling interference between selectable video signals. The selector comprises a source of a selectable video signal. A first conductive video path is coupled to the source and has a first controllable switch. A second conductive video path coupled to the source and has a second controllable switch. A video amplifier is coupled to the first controllable switch and a sync separator is coupled to the second controllable switch. At least one further controllable switch couples the first and second conductive paths to ground when the first and second switches uncouple the source from the video amplifier and the sync separator to inhibit transmission of the cross coupling interference.

Japanese Patent Abstract JP 63 127615 was discussed with regard to applicants' claim 8 and will no be described further. Unlike applicants' claim 12 arrangement the JP abstract makes no mention nor suggestion of applicants' "first and second conductive video paths". In addition the abstract makes no mention nor suggestion of video signal selection for sync separation. Furthermore the JP abstract makes no mention of grounding the first and second conductive paths when the controllable switches uncouple the source to inhibit transmission of cross coupling interference.

Since Japanese Patent Abstract JP 63 127615 fails to disclose or suggest applicants' recited structure, claim 12 is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious and is patentable over JP 63 127615.

Claims 3, 4 and 7 depend from new claim 12 and are also patentable over JP 63 127615.

Claim 3 is additionally patentable because JP 63 127615 makes no mention of switching two lowpass filter capacitors coupled in parallel in a first condition with the capacitors coupled in series in a second condition.

Claim 4 is additionally patentable because, although JP 63 127615 shows a resistor capacitor lowpass filter, the circuit arrangement of JP 63 127615 is unable remove the lowpass filter effect when input 3 is selected. Thus JP 63 127615 fails to operate as amended claim 4 recites and both dependent claims 3 and 4 are additionally patentable over JP 63 127615

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 3 - 7 and 9 - 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 63 127615.

In view of the preceding amendment of the independent claim 8 and new independent claim 12 submitted herewith, applicants respectfully suggest that there is no longer basis for the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

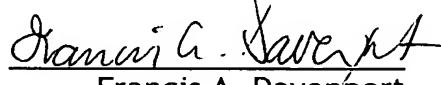
New dependent claims 13 - 15 are directed to further inventive aspects disclosed in the application as filed.

Applicants claim amendments and discussion of the reference have demonstrated that the claims, as now recited, are patentable over JP 63 127615 and the prior art of record. The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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September 27, 2004

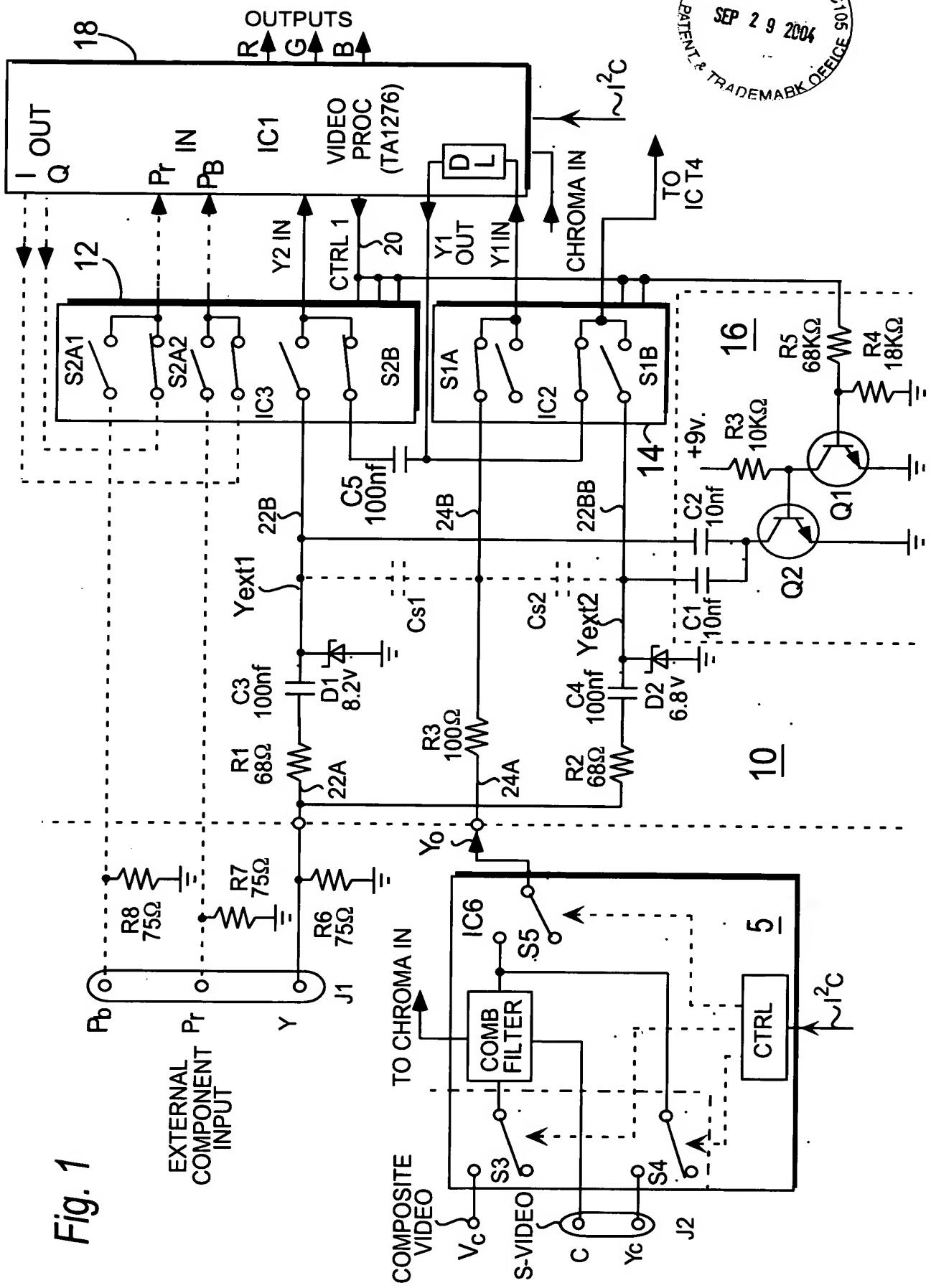
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REPLACEMENT SHEET

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REPLACEMENT SHEET

Fig. 1

